

Montgomery County Lawn Care Law
Invasive Species List - Proposed Executive Regulation 23-16
October 2016

Scientific Name	Common Name	Brief Description	Include on Invasive List?		Rationale
			Landscaped Environment 33B-10	Waterbody Environment 33B-14	
Acer platanoides	Norway Maple	Tree that escapes from cultivation, invades open fields, meadows and woods, where it forms thickets; very prolific seeder.	No	No	Tree seedlings in lawns can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means.
Aegopodium podagraria	Bishop Weed; Goutweed	Goutweed is an aggressive invasive plant that forms dense patches, displaces native species, and greatly reduces species diversity in the ground layer.	No	Yes	Problem if in stormwater management riparian zone.
Ailanthus altissima	Tree of Heaven	Tree that spreads clonally over large areas; will freely seed; very difficult to control.	No	Yes	Tree seedlings in lawns can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means. Cutting mature trees in natural environments causes aggressive resprouting.
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard	Herbaceous biennial that overtakes floodplain flora and mesic uplands, very adaptable to shady forests	No	Yes	Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
Allium vineale	Wild Garlic	Perennial bulb that invades lawns, fields, and meadows.	No	No	Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns. Not considered to be detrimental to the environment in the County.
Ampelopsis brevipedunculata	Porcelain Berry	Woody vine, well established in a variety of habitats; introduced as a cultivated plant; berries spread by birds and other wildlife.	No	Yes	Vine not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns. Rapid growth in natural environments and spread by birds; vines cover and topple trees.
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort	Herbaceous perennial that escapes from fields, roadsides and waste places into native habitats.	No	No	Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
Berberis thunbergii	Japanese Barberry	Shrub, well established in woodlands and forests; introduced as a cultivated plant; seeds spread by birds and other wildlife.	No	Yes	Shrub not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns. Spreads quickly across natural environments by birds and small mammals; spreading fast in some stream sites.
Cardamine impatiens	Narrowleaf Bittercress	Found in forested habitats where it outcompetes native plant species.	No	No	Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.

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<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>	Plumeless Thistle	Herbaceous biennial that invades roadsides, pastures, and open native habitats; seeds dispersed by wind and wildlife .	Already Exempt	Already Exempt	Exempt under 31B-10(b)(1) - Chapter 58 of the Montgomery County Code
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	Musk Thistle	Herbaceous biennial that invades roadsides, pastures and open native habitats; hybridizes with Plumeless Thistle.	Already Exempt	Already Exempt	Exempt under 31B-10(b)(1) - Chapter 58 of the Montgomery County Code
<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	Oriental Bittersweet	Woody vine established in woodlands and forests; introduced as a cultivated plant; berries dispersed by birds and other wildlife.	No	Yes	Vine not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns. Serious problem in woodlands; vines cover and topple trees.
<i>Centaurea stoebe ssp.micranthos</i>	Spotted Knapweed	Herbaceous perennial that escapes from fields and roadsides into native habitats.	No	No	Plant not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canada Thistle	Herbaceous perennial that invades fields and pastures, establishes clonal colonies; seeds distributed by wind and wildlife.	Already Exempt	Already Exempt	Exempt under 31B-10(b)(1) - Chapter 58 of the Montgomery County Code
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Bull Thistle	Herbaceous biennial that escapes from fields and roadsides into native open habitats; seeds distributed by wildlife.	Already Exempt	Already Exempt	Exempt under 31B-10(b)(1) - Chapter 58 of the Montgomery County Code
<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>	Autumn Olive	Shrub that invades a variety of native habitats from grassland to forest; introduced as a cultivated plant; berries distributed by wildlife.	No	Yes	Shrub seedlings in lawns can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means. Shrubs threaten woodland riparian areas and stormwater facilities; spread by birds and small mammals.
<i>Euonymus fortunei</i>	Winter Creeper	Evergreen woody vine that aggressively invades forests, displacing native vegetation.	No	Yes	Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns. Vines threaten woodland riparian areas and stormwater facilities, and damage mature trees.

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Fallopia japonica	Japanese Knotweed	Herbaceous perennial that invades a variety of habitats, forms large colonies; introduced as a cultivated plant.	Yes	Yes	Best if plant is not mown, cut or pulled as the pieces of the plant can easily get moved around and re-sprout, spreading, rather than controlling the plant.
Ficaria verna	Lesser Celandine	Herbaceous perennial that overtakes native floodplain flora; difficult to control due to persistent underground tubers.	Yes	Yes	Best if plant is not mown or cut as the seeds and bulbs of the plant can easily get moved around and re-sprout, spreading, rather than controlling the plant.
Frangula alnus	Glossy Buckthorn	Grows as shrubs or small trees in woodlands, abandoned fields and wetlands; seeds are spread by birds.	No	No	Shrub not typically found in lawns and uncommon locally. Shrub seedlings in lawns can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means.
Glechoma hederacea	Ground Ivy	Perennial herb in the mint family that sprawls along the ground to form thick tangled mats.	No	No	Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
Hedera helix	English Ivy	Woody vine that invades forests and woodlands; introduced as a cultivated plant; berries distributed by birds and other wildlife.	No	Yes	Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns. Very serious and abundant vine threatens woodland riparian areas and stormwater facilities, and damages mature trees. Spread by birds.
Hemerocallis fulva	Daylily	Herbaceous perennial that invades a variety of native habitats; introduced as a cultivated plant.	No	No	Plant not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
Heracleum mantegazzianum	Giant Hogweed	Herbaceous perennial; sap can cause severe skin irritation, blisters and swelling, temporary or permanent blindness.	Already Exempt	Already Exempt	Exempt under 31B-10(b)(4) - Control biting or stinging insects or stinging plants
Houttuynia cordata	Chameleon Plant	Perennial plant with a high reproductive and vegetative growth rate, and quickly overtakes the gardens where it is planted; control of this species is difficult as it will reproduce rhizomatically from fragments.	Yes	Yes	Best if plant is not mown, cut or pulled as the pieces of the plant can easily get moved around and re-sprout, spreading, rather than controlling the plant.

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Humulus japonicus	Japanese Hops	Annual vine; introduced as a cultivated plant.	No	Yes	Plant not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns. Vines threaten woodland riparian areas and stormwater facilities; spreads aggressively.
Imperata cylindrica	Cogongrass	Herbaceous, perennial, rhizomatous grass; thrives in chronically disturbed areas.	No	No	Plant not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
Iris pseudacorus	Yellow Flag Iris	Found at the edges of streams and ponds, in open and forested flood plains, along shorelines, and in freshwater and brackish marshes.	No	Yes	Not a problem in lawns. Problematic in stormwater management riparian zone; resprouts with manual control.
Lonicera japonica	Japanese Honeysuckle	Woody vine that invades a variety of habitats; introduced as a cultivated plant.	No	Yes	Vine not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns. Aggressive invasive in natural areas, girdles and smothers trees and shrubs. Resprouts aggressively with manual control.
Lonicera maackii	Amur Honeysuckle	Shrub that invades a variety of habitats; introduced as a cultivated plant; fruit is dispersed by birds and other wildlife.	No	Yes	Shrub seedlings in lawns can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means. Abundant invasive problem in natural areas; resprouts aggressively with manual control.
Lonicera morrowi	Morrow's Honeysuckle	Shrub that invades a variety of habitats; introduced as a cultivated plant; fruit is dispersed by birds and other wildlife.	No	Yes	Shrub seedlings in lawns can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means. Abundant invasive problem in natural areas.
Lonicera standishii	Standish's Honeysuckle	Shrub that invades a variety of habitats; introduced as a cultivated plant; the fruit is dispersed by birds and other wildlife.	No	Yes	Shrub seedlings in lawns can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means. Abundant invasive problem in natural areas; resprouts aggressively with manual control.
Lonicera tatarica	Tatarian Honeysuckle	Shrub that invades a variety of habitats; introduced as a cultivated plant; the fruit is dispersed by birds and other wildlife.	No	Yes	Shrub seedlings in lawns can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means. Abundant invasive problem in natural areas; resprouts aggressively with manual control.

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Lythrum salicaria	Purple Loosestrife	Herbaceous perennial that overtakes native wetlands; prolific seeder; biological control organisms available.	No	No	Plant not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
Microstegium vimineum	Japanese Stiltgrass	Herbaceous annual rapidly expanding into numerous native habitats; shade-tolerant.	Evaluation continuing	Yes	Evaluation continuing for landscaped environments; may be considered for future inclusion on the list for landscaped environments. Spreads aggressively and on a scale beyond manual control in riparian environments.
Miscanthus sinensis	Chinese Silvergrass	Herbaceous perennial grass widely grown in nursery trade; early flowering cultivars have viable seed and are spreading to roadsides.	No	No	Plant not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
Morus alba	White Mulberry	Native to northern China, imported to start a silk industry as food for the silkworm caterpillar.	No	No	Tree seedlings in lawns can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means.
Murdannia keisak	Marsh Dayflower	Found in slow moving streams, forested swamps, freshwater marshes and fresh-tidal waters.	No	No	Plant not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
Oplismenus undulatifolius	Wavyleaf Basketgrass	This shade-tolerant, low-growing grass invades moist forest habitats.	Yes	Yes	Early detection, rapid response (EDRR) species, which means it is highly detrimental to the environment and targeted on a multi-state effort to control its spread.
Paulownia tomentosa	Princesstree, Paulownia	First introduced into North America in the early 1800s for ornamental purposes.	No	No	Tree seedlings in lawns can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means.
Pennisetum alopecuroides	Fountain Grass	Perennial grass often used in ornamental gardening.	No	Yes	Problem if in stormwater management riparian zone; resprouts aggressively with manual control.
Perilla frutescens	Perilla	Herbaceous annual that invades a variety of habitats; introduced as a cultivated plant; used medicinally.	No	No	Plant not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.

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Persicaria perfoliata	Mile-a-minute	Annual thorny vine that rapidly overtakes shrubs and trees; seeds dispersed by water, birds, and other wildlife.	No	Yes	Vine not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns. Damaging in riparian zones. Spreads aggressively and on a scale beyond manual control in riparian environments.
Phalaris arundinacea	Reed Canarygrass	Wetland grass that can form dense stands and alter wetland hydrology.	No	No	Plant not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
Phragmites australis	Phragmites	Herbaceous perennial that overtakes wetland ecosystems; forms large colonies.	No	No	Plant not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
Phyllostachys spp.	Running Bamboos	Spread quickly from underground stems, forming dense thickets.	No	Yes	Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns. Not controlled by cutting alone in natural areas; resprouts aggressively from roots and fragments.
Pueraria montana var. lobata	Kudzu	Woody vine that rapidly overtakes shrubs and trees.	Already Exempt	Already Exempt	Exempt under 31B-10(b)(1) - Chapter 58 of the Montgomery County Code
Pyrus calleryana 'Bradford'	Callery/Bradford Pear	Tree that escapes from cultivation, freely reseeds; most visible when flowering in spring.	No	Yes	Tree seedlings in lawns can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means. Resprouts aggressively with manual control in natural environment; seeds spread by birds and small mammals.
Rhamnus cathartica	Common Buckthorn	Shrubs or small trees in woodlands, abandoned fields and wetlands.	No	No	Shrub seedlings in lawns can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means.
Rhodotypos scandens	Jetbead	Popular ornamental plant; can invade a wide range of sites from forests to meadows.	No	No	Plant not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
Rosa multiflora	Multiflora Rose	Shrub that overtakes a variety of open and semi-open habitats; fruits dispersed by birds and other wildlife.	No	Yes	Plant not typically found in lawns. Seedlings in lawns can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means. Dense stands found in some riparian areas; resprouts aggressively with manual control. Spread by birds and small mammals.

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Rottboellia cochinchinensis	Itchgrass	Grass found on disturbed ground, old fields, and roadsides.	No	No	Plant not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
Schoenoplectus mucronatus	Bog Bulrush	Annual or perennial sedge that colonizes wet soils and shallow ponds.	No	No	Plant not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
Sorghum bicolor	Shattercane	Annual grass that invades agricultural and natural ecosystems.	Already Exempt	Already Exempt	Exempt under 31B-10(b)(1) - Chapter 58 of the Montgomery County Code
Sorghum halepense	Johnsongrass	Perennial grass that invades agricultural and natural ecosystems	Already Exempt	Already Exempt	Exempt under 31B-10(b)(1) - Chapter 58 of the Montgomery County Code
Tribulus terrestris	Puncturevine	Low growing perennial vine found on disturbed ground and fallow fields.	No	No	Plant not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns.
Typha spp.	Cattails	Perennial aquatic plants that are a valuable source of food and shelter in natural communities, but can be a problem in controlled aquatic systems.	No	Yes	Problematic in stormwater management facilities; spreads from roots if manually controlled.
Wisteria sinensis	Chinese Wisteria	Woody, deciduous, perennial vine that climbs up tree trunks.	No	Yes	Vine not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns. Vines cover and topple trees; spreads aggressively from roots.
Wisteria floribunda	Japanese Wisteria	Woody, deciduous, perennial vine that climbs up tree trunks.	No	Yes	Vine not typically found in lawns. Can be reasonably controlled by mechanical means in lawns. Vines cover and topple trees; spreads aggressively from roots.